

## MOVING A CONDOR.

When Zoological Park Birds Go Into Winter Quarters.

The Andean condor in the flying cage at the Bronx Zoological park, New York, turned his scrawny head to one side and squinted down at the ground beneath him over his broad white ruff. Evidently something was happening on the ground that was unusual. The clumsy pelicans were showing themselves off for a heavy winged fight with an expedition that indicated that they were in a perturbed state of mind. Five men had just entered the cage. They had nets with them. Evidently something of importance was about to be done.

The men distributed themselves about the cage, some in the middle and some at the ends. For a couple of hours the scene reminded one of a chicken roost which has suddenly been disturbed. For all their appearance of wisdom the birds soon displayed the fact that they were easily "rattled." They figuratively, as well as literally, "flew all to pieces." The birds, three out, one after another, were captured and carried out to a smaller inclosure in a closed building. The condor disapproved the saying of the Spanish sage regarding the catching of old birds with chaff. He left his perch and descended to get a better view of the trouble. Finding himself too near for comfort, he flew back again. Then he lost his head with the others and, flapping hither and thither in his ungainly fashion, soon found himself upon the ground again. One of the men grabbed him by the head. Another threw a pair of arms around his body and held him closely. Not without a physical protest did the condor succumb to the inevitable. He tried to spread his wings. He tried to wrench his head away. The men from previous experience knew what to expect should he succeed in doing either. On one occasion the condor had bitten the forearm of one of the men, cutting through three thicknesses of cloth with the facility of a razor. They did not care to furnish bones for their persons for his loathsome birdship.

Moving a condor, or any of the other birds, for that matter, from the outdoor flying cage to the warmer winter quarters, and vice versa, is a job requiring care. The condor must not be squeezed too hard, for that would injure him. He must not have too much freedom for the play of his wings, for "better one byrde in hand than ten in the wood."

"You must keep your head level when carrying a condor," remarked one of the keepers. "You can't let yourself get nervous when you feel his wings pushing out under your arms. If he should get his wings loose, why, you might see him climbing the sky. And if you press them too tight you may not only hurt him, but in your excitement forget about his head. If his head gets loose, why, you have a fight on your hands, so be careful."

While there are many tropical animals at the Zoological park and in Central park which must be housed through the winter, yet with the modern equipments of the two menageries the animals do not have to be moved when the season changes. They are simply shut inside or outside of their winter shelter, as the case may be.—New York Tribune.

## Isolation of the Untaught Deaf Mute.

The eye can never take the place of the ear. During the first twelve or fourteen years of normal life, knowledge enters the mind mainly through the ear. The little deaf mute is, therefore, a thousand times more isolated than the child who is born blind. In the domain of morals the uneducated deaf mute's isolation is made dangerous by the fact that the allurement to sin are mostly addressed to the eye, while its restraints, in youth at least, are mainly appeals to the ear. Moreover, the blind child, cultivating his hearing, is only going back to nature—to his forbears, the cave dwellers. Next to the search for food, listening for sounds is, perhaps, man's strongest primal instinct. The deaf mute is dependent solely upon his eyes. As, of course, the first instinct, without the safeguard of the second.—Reader.

## The Viola.

It seems strange to think that my viola was once a tree, but I do not know what else could have caught the music that lies within it, waiting for the touch. It must be centuries old, and through all those years it was listening and learning, weaving in with its growth the forest melodies to sing to generations yet unborn.

Wind and wave and song of bird, crash of thunder, drip of rain and mating call—all of these are in the fiber of the viola. And the thousand notes of sea and storm, the music of the waterfall and stream—what wonder that it is so nearly the human voice! There must have been a love story in that forest, for it sings love, love and only love, though I do not remember hearing it until I knew you.—Fidel.

## Stories From the Sky.

Every country and every age has its historical, semi-historical or traditional stories concerning immense stones falling from the sky, or, more properly, from space. Levi tells of a whole shower of aerolites which fell on the mountains near Rome in the year 554 B. C. The Arundel marbles (marble tablets giving the events of the Grecian history from 1582 B. C. to 624 B. C. in chronological order) give an account of a great stone which "fell down from heaven" at Megostami about the year 467 B. C. Pliny, who died in the year 79 A. D., says that in his time the "great air stone" mentioned in the foregoing was still to be seen on the Hellespont, "and," he quaintly adds, "it is even now of the bigness of a wagon."



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